



The CHESS Club for Providers

A Monthly Update for Users of Carolina's Health Electronic Surveillance System



APRIL WINDS BLOW...

As April winds blow and spring breezes by...it's time for another issue of [CHESS Club for Providers](#). Have a look at this month's feature and see who is new to the CHESS family.

Live From

Conway Hospital
Laurens County Hospital
Loris Community Hospital
Marion County Medical Center

From the Upstate to the Low County we have added 5 new providers into the CHESS family!! Let's extend a warm welcome to Conway Hospital, Laurens County Hospital, Loris Community Hospital, Marion County Medical Center and Pee Dee Family Practice our second medical practice to use CHESS. There are now 18 medical facilities live with CHESS and expect more to come!

See the [CHESS Live Map](#) on pages 3 for locations.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Help Desk	2
CHESS Training Team	2
CHESS Live	3
Provider Feature Laurens Hospital	4
Frequently Asked Questions	5
Important Reminders	5
By the Numbers	6
The Bulletin Board	7
Keep In Touch	7



Who do you call with questions on how to use CHESS?
The CHESS Help Desk of Course!!!
CHESS Help Line 1-800-917-2093

Answers to your questions are just a phone call away. Call the **CHESS Help Desk** at **1-800-917-2093**.

A member of the training team will be delighted to assist you! So don't forget you have support just a phone call



YOUR CHESS TRAINING TEAM



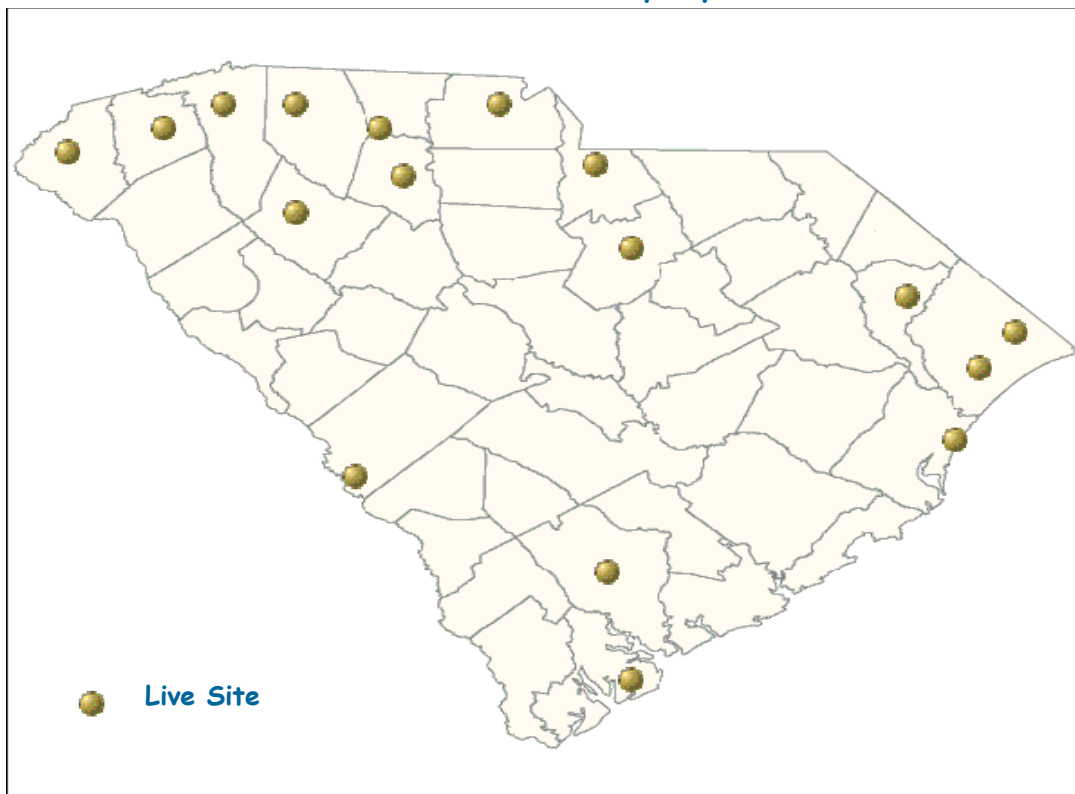
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CHESS LIVE

CHESS Provider Deployment



The deployment of CHESS to hospitals and medical facilities is advancing each day! Five new sites have been added by the end of April 2007.

CHESS is LIVE at:

- ◆ Aiken Regional Medical Ctr.
- ◆ Cannon Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Colleton Hospital
- ◆ Conway Hospital
- ◆ Kershaw County Medical Ctr.
- ◆ Laurens County Hospital
- ◆ Loris Community Hospital
- ◆ Marion County Medical Center
- ◆ New Day Family Practice
- ◆ Oconee Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Palmetto Baptist Easley
- ◆ Paris Island Preventive Medicine
- ◆ Pee Dee Family Practice
- ◆ Spartanburg Regional Medical Ctr.
- ◆ Upstate Carolina Medical Ctr.
- ◆ Waccamaw Community Hospital
- ◆ Wallace Thompson Hospital
- ◆ Winthrop University Health Ctr.

From Region 6 **Loris and Conway Hospitals** are the newest medical facilities to go live with CHESS from Region . We are happy to add Linda Mills from **Loris Hospital** and her associates to our ever growing list of active CHESS users!!! We can't forget Carolyn Johnson and Barbara Bryant from **Conway Hospital**. They have hit the ground running with 36 successful disease reports!! Special Thanks to Sarah Moorman and Harriet Lemon, Regional Coordinators from Region 6.

From Region 4 we are excited to welcome Sharon Elvington from **Marion County Medical Center** and Gail Goins from **Pee Dee Family Practice**. Special Thanks to Fran Hall, Regional Coordinator from Region 2.

Last but not least, we are delighted to welcome Kevin Burch and his associates from **Laurens County Hospital**. Thanks to Sharon Longshore, Regional Coordinator from Region 1. Check out our feature article on Laurens County Hospital on Page 4.

Provider Feature: Laurens Hospital

Sharon T. Longshore, RN, BSN
EPI and BT Nurse for Region 1

As a community participant on the Laurens Hospital Infection Control Committee, I mentioned during a meeting the need for flu surveillance. I explained rapid flu testing needed to be validated monthly during flu season by flu cultures and explained it was the best way to actively watch for any changes in the flu strain. The lab director was interested in helping. The details for collection from the ER's rapid flu (+) and obtaining cultures were worked out through the IDN. In the meantime one of the local practices asked to have a flu culture done on a patient. Flu surveillance was explained to them with a positive response.

They would participate!!!

As a result of much hard work, we have 38 positive flu cultures for Laurens County, validating rapid flu testing and increasing flu surveillance awareness. This is a significant increase from 1 positive flu culture in 2006 and 3 positive flu cultures from the 2004/2005 flu season.

When approached for using CHES for disease reporting the same lab director, Ken Brownlee, asked if this was a "sooner or later choice rather than never?" Once realized the answer was sooner or later, he decided why not sooner? CHES was deployed wonderful results.



There has been a long standing rapport between the Laurens Hospital and DHEC. CHES only enhances the rapport with further communication and trust.



Kevin Burch, in the lab.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Question: What is the purpose of CHES?

Answer: CHES is an excellent tool designed to improve disease surveillance and response statewide. CHES enables DHEC to rapidly analyze disease case information and respond appropriately.



Question: Can I add a disease report in CHES for an out of state patient?

Answer: It is best to submit reports directly to the state in which the patient lives. However, if you enter another state's disease report into CHES, we will make sure that it gets to the appropriate state. For more information about reportable diseases in our neighboring states please see:

Georgia: <http://health.state.ga.us/epi/disease/stats.asp>

North Carolina: <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/gcdc.html>



Question: I can't find the provider that I need for a report that I am entering in CHES. What should I do?

Answer: We try to keep the provider lists updated, but it is far from perfect. If you cannot find a provider, please enter the information, including name, address, and phone number at the bottom of the Report Information tab under "comments". We will use that information to update the provider list in CHES.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

An important reminder for labs:

For diseases noted with a (7) on the S.C. 2007 List of Reportable Conditions, all labs should submit these isolates and positive serologies to the DHEC Bureau of Laboratories for confirmatory testing, serotyping, serogrouping, or genotyping.



BY THE NUMBERS—SOUTH CAROLINA 2007 SO FAR

Condition	Confirmed	Probable	Total
Aseptic meningitis	26	1	27
Brucellosis	2	0	2
Campylobacteriosis	70	1	71
Ciguatera fish poisoning	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	13	0	13
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0
Dengue Fever	0	1	1
Ehrlichiosis- human granulocytic	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis- human monocytic	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis- human- other&unspec	0	0	0
Encephalitis- West Nile	0	0	0
Enterohem. E.coli O157:H7	0	0	0
Enterohem.E.coli shigatox+- ?serogrp	0	0	0
Enterohem.E.coli- shigatox+- non-O157	0	0	0
Giardiasis	20	0	20
Group A Streptococcus- invasive	36	0	36
Group B Streptococcus- invasive	6	0	6
Haemophilus influenzae- invasive	22	0	22
Hemolytic uremic synd- postdiarrheal	1	0	1
Hepatitis A- acute	4	0	4
Hepatitis B- acute	21	3	24
Hepatitis B virus infection- chronic	89	66	155
Hepatitis C- acute	0	0	0
Hepatitis C Virus Infection- past or present	1033	326	1359
Hepatitis Delta co- or super-infection- acute	0	0	0
Hepatitis E- acute	0	0	0
Influenza- human isolates	64	0	64
Legionellosis	5	1	6
Listeriosis	0	0	0
Lyme disease	4	0	4
Malaria	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0
Neisseria meningitidis- invasive (Mening. disease)	5	0	5
Pertussis	18	10	28
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	2	4	6
S. aureus- coag+- meth- or oxi- resistant (MRSA)	1	0	1
Salmonellosis	198	1	199
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	2	0	2
Shigellosis	22	0	22
Strep pneumoniae- invasive	138	0	138
Streptococcal disease- invasive- other	5	0	5
Tetanus	0	0	0
Toxic-shock syndrome- staphylococcal	0	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	343	208	551
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	1	0	1
Vibrio spp.- non-toxigenic- other or unspecified	1	0	1
Vibrio vulnificus infection	0	0	0
West Nile Fever	0	0	0
Yersiniosis	3	1	4

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Save the Date

Members of the CARES IR/CHESS training team will be attending the American Academy of Pediatrics South Carolina Chapter's Annual Meeting being held in Asheville, NC

**Thursday, July 26 and
Friday, July 27**

It will be an opportunity to meet the CHESS training team and ask the trainers questions.

Keep a look out for upcoming events!



Are you hosting an event? Are there any events you would like to see posted? Is there an event you would like the CARES IR/CHESS training team to attend? If so, please send event information to

Lisa Still,

at stilla@dhec.sc.gov

Or

Denise Brown,

at browndddhec.sc.gov

We look forward to hearing from you!

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Your input is important to us!!! So please call us with your comments and suggestions. Don't forget we are here to support your CARES IR/CHESS use. If you have a question, your CARES IR/CHESS training team is only a phone call away.

Ring the Help Desk Line at **1-800-917-2093**.



HAPPY CHESSING!

